Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 SAB-01 EB-07 OES-03

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SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /096 W

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P R 101100Z APR 75 FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2264 INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: AG, FR

SUBJ: FRENCH PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ALGIERS

APRIL 10-12

- 1. PRESIDENT OF FRANCE GISCARD D'ESTAING'S VISIT TO ALGIERS IS ITEM OF MOMENT. PREPARATIONS HAVE BEEN GOING ON WITH INCREASING FRENZY FOR LAST THREE MONTHS. SECURITY IS TIGHTER THAN OBSERVERS HERE HAVE SEEN FOR OTHER VISITS OF CHIEFS OF STATE. EVEN SHIPMENT OF GERMAN COWS WERE THOROUGHLY EXAMINED LAST NIGHT AT AIRPORT TO ENSURE THEY WERE NOT MISSHAPEN TROJAN HORSE.
- 2. WITH SUCH SECRECY THERE HAS NOT BEEN, AS OF APRIL 9, OFFICIAL ALGERIAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISIT, WHICH WILL RUN FROM APRIL 10-12. ACCORDINGLY, SCHEDULE IS NOT DEFINITELY KNOWN.
- 3. FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCE HAS STRESSED CONVERSATIONS TO FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL MATTERS OF CURRENT INTEREST: MIDDLE EAST, REVIEW OF PARIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENERGY MEETING, ALGERIAN CALL FOR NEW ECONOMIC

ORDER, ARAB-EUROPE RELATIONS, ETC.

- 4. ALTHOUGH HE DOWNPLAYED THORNY BILATERAL ISSUES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT NUMBER OF LONG STANDING FRANCO/ALGERIAN PROBLEMS, WHICH OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DAILY REFERS TO AS "CLOUDS WHICH REMAIN TO BE CHASED FROM HORIZON TO ELIMINATE RISK OF STORM," WILL BE DISCUSSED. PROMINENT AMONG THESE WILL BE TREATMENT OF ALGERIANS IN FRANCE, SOCIAL SECURITY FOR ALGERIAN WORKERS, THE HARKIS, SUPPLIER CREDITS, TRAINING FOR ALGERIANS, ALGERIAN CULTURAL ARTIFACTS REMAINING IN FRENCH HANDS, COMPENSATION FOR FRENCH CITIZENS WHO HAVE HAD PROPERTY NATIONALIZED OR SEIZED, ETC. MOST OF THESE ISSUES DO NOT APPEAR READY FOR SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS, BUT GOING STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CLOSER RELATIONS AND LONG-TERM SUPPLY AGREE-MENTS (POSSIBLY FRENCH AGREEMENT TO SUPPLY DAIRY AND SOFT WHEAT PRODUCTS TO ALGERIA) COULD BE ANNOUNCED, ADDITIONAL CREDIT LINES AND SUPPLIER CREDITS FOR MAJOR PROJECTS CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED.
- 5. MAIN GOAL OF VISIT IS PAGEANTRY OF FIRST FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO INDEPENDENT ALGERIA AND ALL THAT MEANS TO COUNTRY STILL IN MANY WAYS FRENCOPHONE. VISIT WILL BE ANOTHER EXTRAVAGANZA PROOF OF COMING OF AGE OF ALGERIA, AND OSTENSIBLY, INDICATION OF ITS SUCCESS AND POWER OF ITS LEADERS.

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